

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

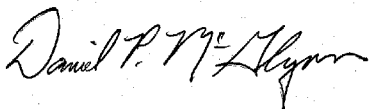
Farm Service Agency  
Washington, DC 20250

Notice PF-196

**For:** State and County Offices

**Closeout of FY 1998 and FY 1999 Market Loss Assistance (MLA)**

**Approved by:** Acting Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



**1 Overview**

**A**

**Background**

2-PF, paragraph 221 specifies that County Offices are required to process overpayments for **all** farms every 60 calendar days until the program is officially closed out. Currently, overpayment software is enabled for:

- program year 1995 Acreage Reduction Program (ARP)
- FY 2000 through FY 2002 for Production Flexibility Contract (PFC)
- FY 1998 through FY 2001 for MLA.

Several County Offices have reported that all producers are being listed on the FY 1998 MLA overpayment register with the message, “No Eligibility Record Found”, since the eligibility files were rolled over for FY 2003.

**B**

**Purpose**

This notice advises State and County Offices that:

- the FY 1998 and FY 1999 MLA payment and overpayment processes **will be permanently disabled** when **County Release No. 501** is installed
- outstanding payments and overpayments shall be processed before County Release No. 501 is installed
- any outstanding FY 1998 and FY 1999 MLA payments shall be submitted to the National Office for authorization codes after County Release No. 501 is installed
- overpayments not transferred to Common Receivable System (CRS) before County Release No. 501 is installed shall be manually established using program code “XXMLAAUTH”.

**Disposal Date**

June 1, 2003

12-27-02

**Distribution**

State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices

## 2 Closing Out FY 1998 and FY 1999 MLA Options

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### A

#### Reason for Closeout

MLA payment and overpayment processes use supporting files to determine whether a producer has been underpaid or overpaid. These files include:

- subsidiary files, such as:
  - payment limitation file
  - eligibility file
  - joint operation, entity, and combined entity files
- PFC worksheet and share files
- farm and tract maintenance files.

Currently, most of these files are only enabled for the most current 3 years. With 2003 rollover, the 1998 eligibility records are no longer available on the system. As such, producers are listed on the overpayment register and outstanding payments probably cannot be processed through the regular payment process.

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### B

#### County Office Action

County Offices shall:

- issue any outstanding FY 1998 and FY 1999 MLA payments to eligible producers before County Release No. 501 is installed, if possible
- compute and transfer FY 1998 and FY 1999 MLA overpayments for all farms to ensure that all **legitimate** debts are transferred to CRS

**Note:** After installing County Release No. 501, County Offices shall manually establish receivables for newly identified FY 1998 and FY 1999 PFC overpayments using program code “XXPFCCOMM” according to 67-FI.

- cancel any FY 1998 and FY 1999 PFC receivable that is not a legitimate debt to CCC according to 2-PF, paragraph 229 before County Release No. 501 is installed
- submit requests for authorization codes using CCC-479B according to 2-PF, paragraph 205.

**Note:** Although CCC-479B is specifically applicable to FY 2000, CCC-479B shall be used for outstanding FY 1998 and FY 1999 MLA authorization code requests.

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